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"What I say unto you I say unto all, WATCH."—Jesus

FOCUS:

## INFINITE RESOURCES



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\*Focused on "Infinite resources"

Founded in 1898 by Mary Baker Eddy,  
Author of the Christian Science Textbook,  
*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*



Marca Registrada

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# Christian Science Sentinel®

Marca Registrada

"What I say unto you I say unto all, WATCH." Jesus

## Life expectancy: eternity

RICHARD H. STRAIN

Daniel, in the lions' den, greeted King Darius with the ancient benediction, "O king, live for ever."<sup>1</sup> It's a good idea to daily bestow this salutation on oneself, for God has commanded that man, the royal reflection of the eternal God, must live forever. Death is neither possible to nor experienced by divine Mind or its reflection. Anyone who understands the God-given dominion this truth confers will be increasingly free of the fear that his life could ever stop.

Mary Baker Eddy, the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, writes: "Life is eternal. We should find this out, and begin the demonstration thereof."<sup>2</sup> And Jesus, the foremost demonstrator of dominion over the belief of death, said, "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent."<sup>3</sup>

What a complete turnaround from the world's conviction that life is temporal! Instead of our trying to cram as much accomplishment as possible into a short span of years, we are being as-

sured with highest Christian authority that spiritual life, reality, is going on right now and is going to go on forever. Accepting this transforms one's whole approach to existence.

Mrs. Eddy encourages us to begin demonstrating eternal Life now. Our job, then, is to show that the life we live right now—as God's child—is spiritual and divine. It is as heavenly and harmonious this moment as it ever will be.

Elsewhere our Leader states, "Life is, always has been, and ever will be independent of matter; for Life is God, and man is the idea of God, not formed materially but spiritually, and not subject to decay and dust."<sup>4</sup> This being the case, one's life has never been enclosed in a fleshly form. It exists independent of the material body—actually exists in place of it. Life's individual idea, man, shows forth Life's nature—strong, vital, ageless, radiant throughout eternity.

What, then, of life that is born, develops, matures in matter and then proceeds to wither away and die? Not a particle of this pattern is true to our spiritual selfhood. As we see clearly our inseparability from Life, forever unconnected with blood and bones, we will begin to free ourselves from the supposed sequence of life in matter. Equipped with the spiritual understanding of being, we can squelch each suggestion of materiality and experience a measure of freedom from the belief of matter-based existence.

Therefore one's journey from the cramped alleyways of material living to the endless reaches of infinite being is continuous and progressive. One's purpose is not to improve life in matter but to keep letting go of belief that life can be in matter.

Demonstrating eternal life necessarily involves uprooting the notion that birth plays any part in true existence. Spiritual individuality has never had a beginning; nor do the thoughts of parents and ancestors or ancient superstitions of astrology have any bearing on the formation of man's real mentality, nor can they chart his life. We learn in Christian Science that man is reflection, not a mortal, and that a reflection, an emanation, of Life, or Mind, is never born and is, therefore, never subject to the hereditary or astrological influences associated with birth. Only God's thoughts mold or affect true being. A deep awareness of

spiritual identity can cleanse consciousness of the beliefs associated with corporeal personality and give the conviction that life is spiritual and changeless.

Accepting birth, one also accepts a mortal sexual identity and the beliefs of life expectancy associated with it. Like any lie about eternal life, this belief need not take up residence in consciousness or affect one in any way. In her chapter "The Apocalypse" Mrs. Eddy tells us: "The Lamb's wife presents the unity of male and female as no longer two wedded individuals, but as two individual natures in one; and this compounded spiritual individuality reflects God as Father-Mother, not as a corporeal being. In this divinely united spiritual consciousness, there is no impediment to eternal bliss,—to the perfectibility of God's creation."<sup>5</sup>

Dropping mortal attributes falsely associated with both maleness and femaleness, and expressing one's true selfhood as the reflection of the fatherhood and motherhood of God, one takes on the spiritual qualities belonging to true manhood. These will push out of consciousness whatever mortally male—as well as mortally female—characteristics might undermine health and inhibit the demonstration of eternal life.

Mrs. Eddy ascribes the safety Daniel felt in the lions' den to his understanding of Love's control over all.<sup>6</sup> Filled with the consciousness of Love, he was incapable of reacting in fear and won his escape from destruction. Habitual reaction to mortal circumstances, on the other hand, is a tendency toward death, blinding one to eternal life.

Reaction contributes to aging, a belief that attaches itself to material personality from the instant of conception. Though mortals believe they exist in the realm of time and accordingly get older every moment, in reality Life ceaselessly imbues its creation with surging vitality. What is needed to counteract the mortal thoughts that contribute to the appearance and effects of aging? A clear grasp of spiritual substance, an endeavor to express moment by moment only the qualities of God that constitute true identity. These qualities forever express harmony and disperse the negative thought-forces of mortal mind evidenced in discord and decay.

God's qualities can't grow old. Can one imagine intelligence or love or goodness aging? Their condition is always fresh, vital. They, and other elements of the divine nature, constitute man's substance, his identity. Man's condition, therefore, must stay as eternally fresh and vital as the qualities he embodies. If this truth of our being becomes dim to us, and we allow mortal thought to be expressed as ours, we can immediately recognize the error and become so aware of our spiritual identity that the false thought and its effect are removed from consciousness. This is beginning the demonstration of eternal life.

What of death—the ultimate consequence of believing one exists in a material body? Is it real? It is not. Those who undergo the illusion of death continue to experience the mental image called a material body. Death cannot make us better, happier, or healthier. In no way is it a friend. Rather, it's just one more argument that existence is material.

Neither the mere refusal nor the willingness to die, but the understanding of Life brings the victory over mortality in all its phases. Paul writes, "As in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive."<sup>7</sup> This is the way of the Christ. It shows us that we dwell in eternal Life, where in reality we always have been. Therefore, O eternally and divinely royal man, you live forever!

<sup>1</sup> Dan. 6:21; <sup>2</sup> *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, p. 246; <sup>3</sup> John 17:3; <sup>4</sup> *Science and Health*, p. 200; <sup>5</sup> *ibid.*, p. 577; <sup>6</sup> See *ibid.* 514:26-28; <sup>7</sup> I Cor. 15:22.

*Our light affliction,  
which is but for a moment,  
worketh for us a far more exceeding  
and eternal weight of glory;  
while we look not at the things which are seen,  
but at the things which are not seen:  
for the things which are seen are temporal;  
but the things which are not seen are eternal.*

II Corinthians 4:17, 18

# What base are you working in?

JOANNE SHRIVER LEEDOM

$$\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ +4 \text{ or } +4 \\ \hline 6 \end{array}$$

Both examples are really correct. If worked in base ten, the sum of two and four equals six. But all number systems are not set in base ten. If one is working in a number system based on five, for instance, the answer that looks like eleven stands for one five and one unit—a correct answer. In base five there is no symbol for six.

In Christian Science there is only one base for correctly solving any problem—base Spirit. Yet the world, not understanding God, Spirit, keeps pushing materialistic answers to problems. The belief in base matter would keep x-ing out spiritual answers. Few comprehend Spirit or the fact that in base Spirit there is no symbol for matter, just as in base five there is no symbol for six.

“Symbols and elements of discord and decay are not products of the infinite, perfect, and eternal *All*,”<sup>1</sup> Mrs Eddy writes. Wrongdoing, disease, and death are symbols of materially based existence and have no more substance than an illusion. The elements of Spirit constitute spiritual substance. There is no discord or decay in this substance.

As we understand this truth of spiritually based existence, we do not feel threatened by the seeming attacks of disease, sin, death. We know that divine Love is the source of our very existence and that this Love protects its idea, man and the universe.

Man’s identity in Spirit as Spirit’s reflection will never be destroyed. Because man’s identity is God-based, God would have to be wiped out—an impossibility—in order for man to be touched by destructive forces.

Not only is man's identity spiritual, but his thoughts stem directly from divine Mind, Spirit—the source of all true consciousness. Hatred, resentment, and other materially based thoughts have no place in the Mind that is Love. Since they are unknown to divine Love, they have no existence in Love's limitless realm.

If an individual feels locked into a material body controlled by a mortal mind, he may feel he has no hope in the present world. He is labeled a sinner by theology that misinterprets Spirit and tries to deal with sin on material terms. Accepting this role of hopeless sinner, he then proceeds to act out the role.

The notion that all is matter and there is no Spirit works as much to mankind's disadvantage as the belief that there are *two* bases from which one has to figure out the rules of living. There is no logical way to solve the problems of existence by a dualistic view of man as both spiritual and material. Because there is only one God, one Mind, nothing truly exists that does not stem from this divine intelligence. Mrs. Eddy points out that "this Mind creates no element nor symbol of discord and decay. God creates neither erring thought, mortal life, mutable truth, nor variable love."<sup>2</sup>

Christ Jesus understood that man's origin is in Spirit, immutable Truth, invariable Love. Using the divine laws of Spirit-based creation, he was able to annul all supposed physical laws that bind mankind to disease and death. He fed the multitude, healed them, walked the waters, and raised the dead. But even more than this, he showed his followers how to emulate him. He said, "He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father."<sup>3</sup> He showed that divine laws, based in Spirit, always supersede false materially based laws that limit mankind with sin, ill health, and death.

Worldly thinking, based in matter, would continually change one's Spirit-based answer. But those who understand what base they are working in know there is no matter in base Spirit. They are proving that spiritual perfection is the sole reality of existence.

<sup>1</sup> *Science and Health*, p. 280; <sup>2</sup> *ibid.*, p. 503; <sup>3</sup> John 14:12.

## Gone fishing

(See John 21:2-17)

There have been times  
when I too  
have gone fishing

(when the demands of spirituality  
seemed too high and my meager  
abilities hardly up to the qualifications needed—  
when it seemed the only thing to do  
was go back to the old occupation  
where I belonged.

Oh! but to be so occupied  
was nothing gainful—I caught no  
fish with which to feed myself or you.)

Then looking up, I saw the Christ,  
and in the midst of seeming dearth  
there were fish!  
Fish enough to fill my net—  
jump-filled, that before was empty—  
strengthened now with hope and faith, unbreakable.

*Follow me, and I  
will make you  
fishers of men,* he'd said.

I've gone fishing!

KARIN JEAN GILLETT

# PERSPECTIVE ON THE NEWS

## Quelling the stress of scarcity

In recent weeks, gasoline lines in the United States have once again been the scene of some disorders and sporadic violence. Irrational behavior is triggered by the belief that man has a selfish, mortal mentality subject to manipulation by the stress of circumstances.

Because this would appear to be the case, violent situations—like the fight for fuel—are forceful reminders of the need to acknowledge God's total control of man. God alone is cause. God alone is Mind—man's Mind, man's source, man's motivator. This is the spiritual fact. Human circumstances can't change it. Instead, circumstances, when touched by the Christly action of intelligent prayer—prayer that discerns and affirms God's authority over man and man's actual nature—will conform more nearly to spiritual fact.

Because man isn't a mortal squeezed in a supposed vise of restricted good, he is not exposed to the pressures of violence. God, Spirit, is man's supplier and controller. Mrs. Eddy tells us emphatically: "No mortal mind has the might or right or wisdom to create or to destroy. All is under the control of the one Mind, even God."<sup>1</sup> Man reflects continually the fathomless goodness of this controlling Mind. Such truths are applicable to the whole range of troubles associated with the fuel shortage, including the conflict and bitterness that were prompted by the truckers' strike in the United States.

Human thought sees a long line of competing interests prompting an outbreak of primitive mortal instincts. But divine Mind knows all identities to be eternally under its wise, impartial jurisdiction. That's the reality opened up to us through

prayer. As we pray scientifically, beliefs of conflict and violence will diminish along with wrongful motivations that produce them. The truth that man is inexhaustibly expressive of divine Love will become more evident.

Frustrating circumstances and frustrated mortals are part of the same package—the lie that existence and substance are outside God. Sticking with the opposite truth, the unalterable spiritual reality, we'll slice through the mesmerism that would have us give evil either a cause or an effect. Because God is the one supreme origin, existence is really concordant, intelligently governed by Him; and man is actually immortal, inseparable from God's provision.

Selfishness and greed appear to lie at the root of much current trouble. These negative elements, along with indifference, egotism, sensuality, would block our perception of God's care for man and foster eruptions of temper and hate. They temporarily rivet thought to a limited, physical sense of life separate from God, but these negative elements don't belong to God or to man.

Living in accord with scientific truth is a vital part of demonstrating that truth. In such living it would seem humanity has a way to go. For Christian Scientists the path is plainly pointed out in the *Manual of The Mother Church*, where Mrs. Eddy succinctly states: "God requires wisdom, economy, and brotherly love to characterize all the proceedings of the members of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist."<sup>2</sup> Purity of thought, a willingness to let go of selfish impulses, is essential to proving God's supply of infinite good for man. Our understanding acknowledgment of God alone as the creator of man's being will help forward that demonstration in the quickest, most effective way.

Christ Jesus said of his crucifiers, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."<sup>3</sup> Violent mortal thought *doesn't* know what it's doing, because, not having divine Mind as its cause, it isn't really thought. Nor is mortal thought really man. Man belongs to divine Mind, and through Christian Science this fact can be increasingly proved.

<sup>1</sup> *Science and Health*, p. 544; <sup>2</sup> *Man.*, Art. XXIV, Sect. 5; <sup>3</sup> Luke 23:34.

## Breaking the energy shortage

LIANA F. ZAMBRESKY

Can you imagine the oceans of the world dead calm because the waves have run out of energy? Can you imagine the rivers ceasing to flow because they have all emptied into the sea? Can you picture a day when there is not even the slightest breeze anywhere on the earth?

Of course, all of these imaginings are absurd, while the sun is constantly energizing and activating the earth's oceans and atmosphere. The ever-renewing energy cycles of the earth provide a useful analogy, for just as the waves, the rivers, and the winds manifest the power of the sun, even so God's spiritual universe, including man, expresses the omnipotent and unerring government of divine Mind. God is constantly energizing, animating His creation, man.

Understanding this truth, we see how inevitable it is that our problems with energy will bless us. The demand is being made for purer, cleaner energy, and in the final analysis this demand can only be met spiritually. Pollution, or the polluted atmosphere of wrong thinking, cannot go on. Humanity will sooner or later be forced to form a higher, more spiritual concept of energy.

Many people think that alternative energy sources such as solar energy, geothermal steam, or nuclear fusion are the answer, but even these have their limitations. The real answer is found in correcting an underlying sinful belief that continues to bind humanity no matter how diligently it tries to ensure a continu-

ous supply of energy. It is the belief that man can be independent and self-sufficient apart from God.

In order to reverse this lie and understand that our sufficiency comes from God, we need to gain a more spiritual concept of energy so that the way opens up for a proper manifestation of energy in our lives. Christian Science explains that despite what our physical senses tell us, we do not live in a universe that is the result of matter-substance and matter-energy. Mrs. Eddy's statement in *Science and Health* "All is infinite Mind and its infinite manifestation, for God is All-in-all" <sup>1</sup> brings out a provable, scientific fact. We actually live in a universe of substantial, spiritual ideas, not matter. Energy is really the activity of spiritual ideas. Admitting that man can be without energy is admitting that divine Mind has lost its power to have ideas! In reality, each one of us is an individual expression of the divine Mind and is constantly conscious of ever-appearing ideas. Actually sensing this fact changes our mental environment and is manifested humanly as improved conditions, better energy resources.

The best approach, then, to a balance of energy supply and demand is spontaneous reliance on God through prayer in our daily lives. Christ Jesus showed us that reliance on God is practical. So total was his trust in God's infinite supply that he did not concern himself with how to feed the multitude until they were hungry. He did not bake the loaves beforehand or worry as his disciples did. Jesus' prayer was instant, reliant on God, and immediately answered.

Stockpiling of oil or coal may or may not prove to be a key to energy stability. But if stockpiling is based on fear or the tacit assumption that shortages are inevitable, then this provision will prove inadequate. The storing of provisions needs to be God-directed, as two Bible stories point out.

One is a parable of Jesus' concerning a rich man who decided he would build bigger barns to store the fruits of his labor. The man expected he would live a life of ease, but he found that his

dream of material security came to an abrupt end. As Jesus explained, the problem was that this man had not been rich toward God.<sup>2</sup> He had not acknowledged God as the source of his well-being, so all of his material wealth did him no good.

Consider the other story. An Egyptian Pharaoh had two dreams that troubled him. He called for his magicians and wise men to interpret the dreams, but they all failed. Then he called up from his dungeon a God-inspired individual, named Joseph, who successfully interpreted the dreams as a message from God to prepare for the future. Seven years of plenty were to be followed by seven years of famine. The Pharaoh appointed Joseph to oversee all the stockpiling of grain for the years of famine. The Egyptians survived the lean years, and out of their abundance they could sell their surplus to starving neighbors.<sup>3</sup> This storing of goods had been God-directed, and so it blessed everyone.

The achievement of right balance lies in both giving and receiving. Jesus said, "Give, and it shall be given unto you."<sup>4</sup> Giving reverence and praise to God for blessings already received is essential to receive more of His goodness. So is loving our spiritual nature as God's children so that spiritual sense guides us rather than material sense. The book of Malachi shows the unity of giving and receiving when it says, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."<sup>5</sup>

In light of this promise it is apparent that our present mental storehouse may be cluttered and filled with the debris of human self-sufficiency and a material sense of supply. We need to clean out this debris to make room for the right concept of God and receive God's overflowing blessing. As we read in *Science and Health*, "Soul has infinite resources with which to bless mankind,

and happiness would be more readily attained and would be more secure in our keeping, if sought in Soul.”<sup>6</sup>

To acknowledge God’s divine wisdom as the only intelligence of man will help guide and govern mankind’s development of new energy resources. Knowing that Soul, God, supplies “infinite resources with which to bless mankind” lifts the burden from our shoulders. Supply is immediate, abundant, because God’s omnipotence knows no limitation.

<sup>1</sup> *Science and Health*, p. 468; <sup>2</sup> See Luke 12:16 21; <sup>3</sup> See Gen. 41-45; <sup>4</sup> Luke 6:38; <sup>5</sup> Mal. 3:10; <sup>6</sup> *Science and Health*, p. 60.

# Milk, honey, and no inflation

[Written for the *Sentinel*]

If we ever are on the verge of doubting God’s loving care for mankind, we need only turn to the Bible. There we can find comforting truths, which explain that it is never God’s will for any of His children to suffer a lack of good. Efficacious biblical truths can be freely understood and applied by us all. Although they are not taught in the business schools, they are potent beyond the academic’s fondest theory of supply and demand.

We need not hesitate to apply simple, spiritual, Bible-based truths to our money troubles. Mrs. Eddy points out the need to look above human abilities. “The talent and genius of the centuries have wrongly reckoned,” she writes. “They have not based upon revelation their arguments and conclusions as to the source and resources of being,—its combinations, phenomena,

and outcome,—but have built instead upon the sand of human reason. They have not accepted the simple teaching and life of Jesus as the only true solution of the perplexing problem of human existence.”<sup>1</sup>

Consider the situation of the children of Israel described in Deuteronomy, for example. During their journey in the wilderness, the people had been abundantly fed; their clothing had not worn out. Later, the Lord brought them into a land of plenty where they could cultivate fertile land. Iron and copper deposits abounded. For some at least there was wealth. (See Deut. 8.) Underpinning this description—what might seem the utopian dream of the naive—in place of law courts and legislatures, banks and credit, there were simple rules, starting with the Ten Commandments. Timelessly, these protect prosperity, not because an abundance of things is necessarily godly but because, in reality, spiritual ideas reflect effortlessly the processless ever-presence of God, good. This reflection is our model of reality.

We need to watch that we’re not mesmerized into putting fundamental trust in the power of our own efforts or of easy, painless credit to obtain our daily needs and wants. If we are to grasp the ever-presence of good and ultimately stop the centuries-old farce of inflation, we must first shake from our own thought mesmeric dependence on persons or on financial systems. Most important, we must abandon belief in chronic separation from God.

Sometimes in our personal affairs we break out of the encircling bubble of lack. Our glimpse of God’s tender care may find outward expression in a surprise gift—or something else that hints of God’s care. The challenge is to maintain, in the face of self- or media-hypnosis, this priceless sense of God’s nearness. Just because this meets our needs? No, because man’s inseparability from God is the truth. This same penetrating understanding can be applied to global problems infecting commercial practices.

Here, again, the Bible leads the way. It is not silent on the necessity of integrity, in the widest sense, in commercial practices. The systems through which business was conducted in biblical days were apparently of considerable importance; and certain business rules were instituted and even enunciated in the Mosaic law. "Usury," the King James Version's word for taking of interest on a loan—a commercial practice traceable back to the Babylonians more than 1,000 years before the first known coins were struck—was repeatedly condemned within the Israelite community. (See Ex. 22:25; Lev. 25:35-37; Deut. 23:19, 20.) A neighbor was not supposed to take advantage of his neighbor's distress. Obviously, interest is a feature of today's economy. But to obey the spirit of the Mosaic approach would certainly help wipe out financial exploitation.

Remove the mask of inflation, and behind it is the face of greed. But greed as a practice in business, in the legislature, in our homes, is bound to be followed by a sense of failure, because as an attitude of thought it breaks the moral law: "Thou shalt not steal." Pursuing wholeheartedly what is not legitimately our own, and at the expense of others, hangs a millstone of selfishness around every pseudo success. To lift the mental miasma of greed from ourselves individually or from what we observe in the deeds of others singularly or in groups, we must commence with a concept of God as "the great Giver." He gives only out of His perfect sense of good. His gifts of good are never inflated by corrupt business practices or deflated by government intervention. Like the manna God spread before the wandering children of Israel, the great Giver's gifts of spiritual substance perfectly meet every human need.

As we must live in this world, though not of it, we need to exercise our Christian faith in all our business dealings. No doubt Jesus didn't intend his declaration "For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again"<sup>2</sup> to apply only on our days off.

It is in the exercise of our spiritual understanding within the context of our work that financial systems will be released from inflation, which troubled the Babylonians, the Greeks, and the Romans before us. Such a task begins with our understanding of money as a useful tool—the way we would look upon a wheelbarrow or a hammer. Money is not a god. As a hammer can be a weapon, so money, wrongly conceived, can be thought of as a power in and of itself and can be used for the purpose of wielding power. On the other hand, money seen as a useful concept—a rude symbol of value—can become the servant of good.

Transforming the world's view of money will take consecrated prayer. But Christian Science challenges every entrenched misconception included in material systems and therefore has its place in defeating inflation. Mrs. Eddy's reply to the question "What is the chief danger, social or political, that confronts the new century?" posed in 1900 by a New York newspaper, included references not only to religious themes but also to political and economic ones. Her answer reads: "To my sense, the most imminent dangers confronting the coming century are: the robbing of people of life and liberty under the warrant of the Scriptures; the claims of politics and of human power, industrial slavery, and insufficient freedom of honest competition; and ritual, creed, and trusts in place of the Golden Rule, 'Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them.'"<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Eddy also counsels, "Proportionately as we part with material systems and theories, personal doctrines and dogmas, meekly to ascend the hill of Science, shall we reach the maximum of perfection in all things."<sup>4</sup> This is certainly the clue to shaking off the clinging sense of limitation, masked as a diseased global financial system. In money matters, we need to look to God and obey our highest moral sense.

<sup>1</sup> *Unity of Good*, p. 9; <sup>2</sup> Luke 6:38; <sup>3</sup> *The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany*, p. 266; <sup>4</sup> *Miscellaneous Writings*, p. 232.

# Let's open our eyes with confidence

STIG KIÆR CHRISTIANSEN

Sometimes the news we hear on radio or television, or read in the newspaper, seems rather depressing. Energy shortages, inflation, unemployment, vandalism, strikes and lockouts, seem to threaten us. Do we dare open our eyes in the morning and face another day?

Yes, of course we do. Although we may seem to be virtually surrounded by difficulties, let's open our eyes and see things as they really are.

These troubles are mortal beliefs that would hide the truth that God, the Almighty, really is almighty, that He has all power and is the provider of all good to His creation. With spiritual discernment we can look through adversity to the reality of God's omnipotence, just as Elisha the prophet once did.

The Bible relates that Elisha saved his country several times by warning the king of Israel against entrapment by the king of Syria. When the king of Syria discovered Elisha was responsible for the warnings, he sent soldiers to Dothan, the town where the prophet and his servant were staying. The young man, waking in the morning and seeing the town surrounded by enemy horses and chariots, went to Elisha and cried, "Alas, my master! how shall we do?"

With complete trust in God and His omnipotence, Elisha immediately calmed his servant's anxiety, saying, "Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them." It was almost as if Elisha were saying: Don't be afraid. Spiritual power is infinitely stronger than so-called physical power. The

Bible tells us: "Elisha prayed, and said, Lord, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the Lord opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha."

The story goes on to tell how Elisha saved himself and his servant through the power of God and eventually ended the Syrian threat peacefully.<sup>1</sup> But a turning point, a decisive fact in the story, is that the young man's eyes were opened as a consequence of Elisha's prayer. The servant saw that he was surrounded, not by a ring of hostile, threatening forces, but by protecting, spiritual forces—a fact recognized all the time by Elisha himself.

What had happened, really? A change in the young man's consciousness had enabled him to deny the testimony of his material senses. His "eyes" were opened. What are eyes, then?

Here, it's important to remember how Christ Jesus, quoting from the Old Testament, would criticize his students for their lack of spiritual understanding with the words, "Having eyes, see ye not? and having ears, hear ye not?"<sup>2</sup> Our Leader, Mrs. Eddy, uses this quotation in the Glossary of *Science and Health* when she gives the biblical meaning of "eyes" and "ears." The definition of "eyes" begins, "Spiritual discernment,—not material but mental."<sup>3</sup>

Seeing, then, is really a spiritual faculty. Why? Because man, created in the exact likeness of God, Spirit, is spiritual—not partly, not mostly, but entirely. Therefore, man's senses and faculties are spiritual. We are able to perceive the beauty and perfection of God's universe to the degree we claim and use these spiritual faculties. Opening our eyes, then, is the conscious using of our spiritual ability to understand—to see, in however faint glimpses—the ever-presence and power of God and His perfect universe, including man.

Christian Science interprets the upheaval, turmoil, and strife that seem so prevalent in the world today. These disturbances are phases of material-mindedness. They are error, mortal illu-

sions, and not real because not created by God. Divine Truth destroys error, and this apparent conflict between Truth and error is termed in Christian Science moral chemicalization. *Science and Health* explains, "The breaking up of material beliefs may seem to be famine and pestilence, want and woe, sin, sickness, and death, which assume new phases until their nothingness appears." And she further writes, "Mortal error will vanish in a moral chemicalization. This mental fermentation has begun, and will continue until all errors of belief yield to understanding."<sup>4</sup>

Considering the enormous disparities in living standards in the world and the ability of modern media to make these differences known around the globe, it is small wonder that upheaval and unrest are part of the daily picture. As responsible citizens of the world, we should realize that much of what is going on is the chemicalization caused by Truth's swallowing up of error—divine righteousness destroying human injustice. Some of the unrest may be motivated by human greed for power or money, and we should oppose that sort of activity daily in our prayers. Other ferment may be motivated by a righteous desire for genuine freedom, equality, and brotherhood. Through its carefully documented and analyzed reports of world events, *The Christian Science Monitor* can help us sift through the different kinds of unrest. It can show us where our mental defense is needed in behalf of our fellowman and where we can support activity that is tending to make human rights approach, as nearly as possible, their divine sense. We should welcome and support in our prayer genuine increases in mankind's liberty, never fearing the consequences. God, divine Love, will fulfill the right desire for freedom. *Science and Health* promises, "Divine Love always has met and always will meet every human need."<sup>5</sup>

Fear that divine Love cannot meet our need may, in belief, bring hardship. The quality of our thought, the spiritual insight or the material belief that we allow to predominate, determines

what we experience. Therefore, growing confidence and understanding that God, the creator of man, is also the preserver of man brings us increasing safety and peace.

Let's not be doubtful and fearful. Let's start each day by confidently opening our eyes—claiming our spiritual discernment—and seeing that “they that be with us are more than they that be with them.”

<sup>1</sup> See II Kings 6:8 -23; <sup>2</sup> Mark 8:18; <sup>3</sup> *Science and Health*, p. 586; <sup>4</sup> *ibid.*, p. 96; <sup>5</sup> *ibid.*, p. 494.

## The banquet table is laid for all

PIERRE PRADERVAND

Every year, millions of pages of scientific and technical literature are published. A scientist reading twenty-four hours a day could not keep up with the information published in his own field, let alone other areas. The world's food problem covers numerous disciplines—from agronomy to political science, from economics to ecology, from meteorology to demography, from geology to biology, chemistry, food processing, and nutrition. Some scientists claim overpopulation is the source of the food problem. Others say the world could easily feed 40 to 50 billion people, or over ten times the present world population. Faced with this tower of Babel of human knowledge, many scientists—not to mention laymen—feel confused. How do we begin understanding all this?

## The starting point

For the Christian Scientist, the correct beginning can only be metaphysical. Our starting point for discovering an answer to the food problem—as for any other problem—is clearly stated by Mrs. Eddy in the textbook of Christian Science, *Science and Health*: “The starting-point of divine Science is that God, Spirit, is All-in-all, and that there is no other might nor Mind,—that God is Love, and therefore He is divine Principle.” In the next paragraph, “All substance, intelligence, wisdom, being, immortality, cause, and effect belong to God.”<sup>1</sup> Other passages, such as “the scientific statement of being” (*Science and Health*, p. 468), and the description of God (*ibid.*, p. 465), present the same basic truth. They assure us that God, who is infinite Love and limitless good, reigns supreme in the universe, despite the view of the material senses, which seem to scream the contrary.

Since God is All—*infinite Spirit*—matter is a mistake. What we call matter is not the true basis of substance. There can be no actual lack of genuine substance, Spirit. In their ultimate and true expression, food, energy, housing, represent spiritual realities.

Our real nourishment is the Word of God, Truth. Christ Jesus clearly understood this when he refused the suggestion that he change stones into bread to satisfy his hunger (see Matt. 4:3, 4). Our true shelter is the awareness of the divine omnipresence, of the everlasting arms of divine Love always surrounding and protecting us. “Metaphysics resolves things into thoughts, and exchanges the objects of sense for the ideas of Soul,”<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Eddy tells us. As we learn to do this we will find that we are limitlessly supplied—before, during, and after human needs become apparent.

## Limited resources?

One of the main claims made about the global food problem is that the world simply cannot produce enough to satisfy grow-

ing populations with rising standards of living. Furthermore, intensification of present agricultural practices, some say, will lead to an ecological disaster. Other specialists claim there is plenty to go around, and that the main constraint is human selfishness—the so-called haves do not wish to share with the have-nots.

Mrs. Eddy's comments in *Science and Health* on the book of Genesis furnish an inspiring reply to concepts of limited resources and overpopulation. Here we come across statements so powerful they will, when pondered, prayed over, and understood spiritually, destroy lack. For example, "Spirit duly feeds and clothes every object, as it appears in the line of spiritual creation, thus tenderly expressing the fatherhood and motherhood of God."<sup>3</sup>

Christian Science teaches us to perceive the real identity not only of people but of such natural objects as animals, flowers, trees. Wouldn't a thorough understanding of this point eliminate the fear of drought, for instance, with its consequent destruction of crops? Fear of famine and of ecological disaster must be conquered by spiritual understanding.

### A new view

For years I specialized in population problems and had accepted somber predictions of impending world disaster. While working in Algeria, I met a remarkable couple who radiated a light, a joy, a serenity. I wanted to know what made them so special. They gave me the book *A Century of Christian Science Healing*. Reading just a chapter of that book enabled me to drop instantaneously a nineteen-year addiction to sleeping pills and tranquilizers. This reading also changed the course of my life—and my whole vision of the "population problem."

For me, today, there is a realistic answer. "Population" is an abstract concept defining *people*. When we learn to see spiritually, we see ourselves and others as we really are, that is, as di-

vine ideas. To overcome the fear of overpopulation, we need to see that in infinite Spirit there can be no overcrowding, and that Spirit, governing all, indirectly governs even the area of human reproduction. Mrs. Eddy explains, "Multiplication of God's children comes from no power of propagation in matter, it is the reflection of Spirit."<sup>4</sup>

Today the number of specialists is diminishing who believe that lack of material resources (of arable lands, of disease-resistant plants, and so on) or overpopulation is the main source of the food problem. With world-population-growth rates beginning to slow, an increasing number of specialists believe that political obstacles and wasteful consumption patterns are the main problems. Here, too, we must return to our metaphysical starting point, i.e., that God, the infinite Giver of infinite good, governs all supremely.

### Action follows perception

But a correct metaphysical perception of a problem needs to be followed by action—by demonstration of this spiritual understanding in our lives. Unless results follow, our metaphysics are no better than the self-righteous utterances of the Pharisees, which Jesus denounced. Giving treatment in Christian Science to a world food problem will be of little use if prayerful attention fails to lead to concrete changes in our lives.

Possibly the most striking demonstration over inadequacy of food resources is Jesus' multiplication of the loaves and fishes (see Matt. 14:15-21). Of startling interest is the fact that after Jesus had made that extraordinary demonstration of real substance, the disciples picked up twelve baskets of leftovers! Imagine the work of gathering the scraps left by 5,000 people spread over a large area! Might this not underline the fact that a real understanding of abundance precludes waste? God does not waste any of His ideas. Gratitude for what we have can help us express wise economy.

Waste takes many forms. All forms of overindulgence—whether of eating, sleep, travel, leisure—are wasteful. In fact, every time we indulge our wants rather than satisfy our needs, we run the risk of wasteful behavior. Indulgence results from believing in lack or in pleasure in matter, and it can be overcome by understanding the spiritual nature of man, who possesses complete fulfillment in God alone.

### **Understanding the divine economy**

For some time I have lived in one of the areas the world considers “poor” or “underdeveloped.” Women and children habitually search the garbage cans of the neighborhood for food. Because I have seen this almost daily for years in a land that could—given an intelligent use of resources—furnish abundant food, I have come to believe that *fasting* is the ultimate reply to the world problem: “Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh? . . . And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday.”<sup>5</sup>

The last sentence furnishes the real clue. We need to share right thoughts, scientific thoughts that help people help themselves, rather than increase people’s dependence on material assistance, however necessary the latter may sometimes be.

To illustrate: When I first arrived in West Africa some years ago, I met two young men. One was single, the other had a wife and children. Both were unemployed. Both often went hungry. To the first I offered Science—and considerable material assistance, paying for his studies and his daily needs for over two

years. To the second I offered Science, too, and very little material help.

The first one chose the easy way of material dependency, studying Science to please me (or so he thought). He ended up on the rough road where I had met him, surviving through doubtful expediencies. The second one delved into Science. This study changed his whole character, although for years it changed his material condition very little. But because he became a new man, touched by the Christ, he found a job, the first in his lifetime. And now his family is taken care of, albeit modestly.

"Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free,"<sup>6</sup> said Jesus. As we learn the deeper meaning of this statement, we will be progressively freed from material beliefs—including so-called nutritional laws. Hunger and famine will disappear, as love replaces selfishness and self-indulgence in both individual and international relations. The divine economy will be understood and will meet the needs of all in superabundance. We will discover and demonstrate that the Christ is already our daily and everlasting bread of life.

<sup>1</sup> *Science and Health*, p. 275; <sup>2</sup> *ibid.*, p. 269; <sup>3</sup> *ibid.*, p. 507; <sup>4</sup> *ibid.*, p. 303; <sup>5</sup> Isa. 58:6, 7, 10; <sup>6</sup> John 8:32.

## For fresh views of Truth

Maybe at some time we've been given a small gift disguised in a large package. Inside the first parcel is a smaller one, and inside that a smaller still, and so on. "Unwrapping" the truth in Christian Science is somewhat comparable in this sense: each fresh truth of being we glean unpacks yet one more. On the other hand, it is quite different in that each step in this unwrapping brings its own sense of satisfaction and enrichment.

The pursuit of Truth is never stale or boring. It can never even seem to be so, as long as we remember the limitlessness of Truth, God. "Truth cannot be stereotyped; it unfoldeth forever,"<sup>1</sup> Mary Baker Eddy says. Its resources are without bounds or borders. That which blossoms forever, that which is eternal Life itself, offers no possibilities of monotony. Our real self unfolds forever. Our individuality is inseparable from what Truth is ever manifesting. Humanly speaking, we must continue to be seekers for Truth until we maintain permanently the realization that we are the very idea, or manifestation, of Truth.

Mind-science opens out to us endless vistas of being. "Each successive stage of experience unfolds new views of divine goodness and love,"<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Eddy tells us in *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*. There's never any need for our inspiration to go flat. It never does, so long as we approach study with the exuberant conviction that we are Truth's very self-expression. The focus of the Christian Scientist's study is the Bible and the writings of Mary Baker Eddy. These have a finite number of words. But the implications and meanings of the words are infinite. As we search for meanings we are led into the endless universe of Spirit. When approached rightly, these books always have something fresh to say to us. They break fresh spiritual ground as we work with them. These books are not simply religious speculations addressed to mortals. Mrs. Eddy's writings

are not the personal opinions of a nineteenth-century New England woman. They represent Truth's revealing of itself.

Mrs. Eddy expressed the revelation of Christian Science as clearly as human language will allow. To see the clarity of the revelation we need to look to our own clarity. We need to burnish our spiritual sense and to keep it polished. Then we'll see what we need to see. And what we always need is a continuing, upward-moving vision of pure Truth.

God is not apart from what He is expressing and communicating. Moreover, we are never apart from God. Knowing this, we won't approach the books with an awe that puts them on a pedestal more or less out of reach. While approaching them with respect we will also approach them with naturalness and the expectation of climbing some new peaks where we will find spiritual refreshment.

Just reading is not enough. It's the inspiration and feeling that go along with our study that really matter. For example, we may again read " 'God is Love' " (see *Science and Health*, p. 6). Maybe we have read that statement often. What we need, then, is a new feeling of its infinite meaning so that we're conscious of the very presence of Love that heals. Those three familiar words open out to us unfathomable inspiration as we open our thought to them.

Our study can and should launch us onto fresh expanses of understanding. There are depths of Truth we must explore. When we do, the value of study continues long after we've physically shut the books. Mentally keeping them open all the time—pondering phrases, statements, words, whole chapters—we have plenty of substance for thought. Whether driving the car, working on an assembly line, playing baseball, we find opportunities for the contemplation and application of Science. Our thought stays well fueled with scientific truth. A friend who studies Christian Science deeply and widely once said he would never so much as go for a walk without coming back with half a

dozen or so fresh insights into Truth—even though they may be minor.

Spiritual perception shows us more of the vast unfolding truth behind what is written. "It is a truism that we can think more lucidly and profoundly than we can write or speak,"<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Eddy notes. Insightful Bible passages and the books of the Discoverer of Christian Science have behind them more lucidity and depth than a superficial reading can ever indicate.

Suppose someone feels ill and has been intending to go to the doctor. He comes across a copy of *Science and Health*—maybe a neighbor has passed it along. He reads there, perhaps, "Man is spiritual and perfect; and because he is spiritual and perfect, he must be so understood in Christian Science."<sup>4</sup> Here we have a finite number of words—twenty. But the meaning and possibilities of this statement, understood, are not finite. As the individual prayerfully considers them he may catch the divine logic that a medical diagnosis would involve a mortal analyzing a mortal, a belief analyzing a belief. He may have already picked up from his reading the point that man is perfect because he is the full expression of perfect God. His thought moves to a more spiritual level, one on which healing might very well take place. The healing will surely come as he lets the spiritual significance of those words relating to man introduce him to new certainties of who and what he really is.

Truth, infinite Life, unfolds forever. In our true self we are not mortals studying this unfoldment or endlessly thirsting for it. We are the idea of Truth, the child of infinitely benevolent, divine Love. To feel what that means is to rise to new outlooks. It is to heal and to be healed.

GEOFFREY J. BARRATT

<sup>1</sup> *No and Yes*, p. 45; <sup>2</sup> *Science and Health*, p. 66; <sup>3</sup> *No and Yes*, p. 39; <sup>4</sup> *Science and Health*, p. 475.

## Unlimited treasures in heaven

There is no harm in having money and material possessions if we keep a right perspective on them. But we must evaluate them correctly or we may fall victims to the satanic suggestion that worldly riches have power in themselves to bring us satisfaction and happiness. They never can. One cannot buy the kingdom of heaven or lasting enjoyment of its treasures.

Heaven is a spiritual state of consciousness—the state emanating from the divine Mind—in which we feel the presence of God, infinite Life and Love, and His perfect universe, and gratefully know that we possess all the qualities of God as His reflection. This spiritual state of consciousness cannot be purchased; it is a gift of God. Everyone, in his spiritual being, is freely endowed with it by his creator and expresses it to perfection. Each is serenely conscious of the presence of affluent goodness and love, and rejoices in his own spiritual completeness in God's image.

Christian Science shows that through prayerful acknowledgment of these divine facts we all can enjoy the benefits of God's generous giving now. We can have a taste of heaven and its treasures here on earth, and never lack for any good thing again.

The Bible warns that one's attitude toward money needs to be carefully and constantly monitored. Christ Jesus recommended laying up treasures in heaven rather than on earth (see Matt. 6:19, 20). And one of his early followers gave the warning that worldly riches lead people "into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts." And added, "For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." Then he recommended that the young friend to whom he was writing "follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness."<sup>1</sup>

Most of us know or have heard of people who are materially wealthy and yet are not happy. Perhaps we have learned a lesson by comparing them with others of our acquaintance who have very little of the world's goods and are rich in the contentment, peace, and joy that truly satisfy. We can see that it is spiritual qualities that are of real value, not money and material things. And since spiritual qualities are infinite, we can reason that the harmony and joys of heaven must be inexhaustibly available to everyone.

These gifts are present with all people everywhere, regardless of human circumstances—and all can prove this. Christ Jesus told his disciples, "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."<sup>2</sup> We can know with assurance that God gives us the sweet qualities of home and heaven—all that makes life a blessing—and we will have them freely.

This does not mean that we should disparage or carelessly dispose of material wealth if we have it. Human poverty has no more intrinsic spiritual value than material riches. In fact, lack should be unknown to the true followers of Christ Jesus, who taught and proved that God supplies all the needs of His children generously and consistently. But whatever our human situation, we should be spiritually alert to maintain the Christly position that it is God, the divine Mind, who is the source of all the qualities and ideas that make life abundantly joyous and harmonious, and to remember that the divine source is not merely generous but limitless.

All that truly makes life worth living is derived from Soul, God, rather than from physical sense. It is Soul's qualities, not material things and physical gratification, that satisfy us, and the supply of these qualities never fails. We can never be deprived by time or chance, by hostility or graft, by cunning or by carelessness, of any element of the true, spiritual happiness and fulfillment that Soul, God, imparts. Companionship, love,

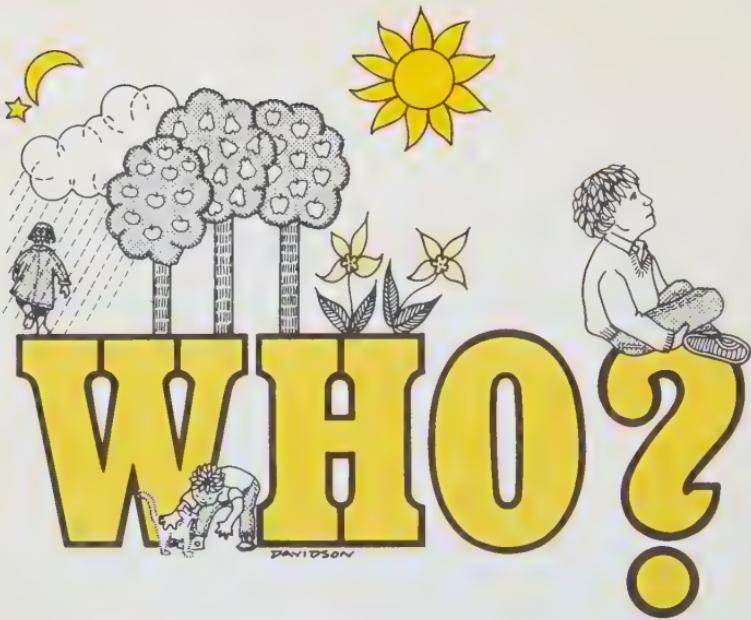
home, and heaven are all ours throughout eternity. There is no shortage of affection. No lack of tenderness and care. Images of beauty and vitality are constantly appearing. Opportunity's door is ever open for us to learn and express more of the infinite grandeur of divine Life and Mind. And all these qualities become apparent in human experience as we claim our ownership of them in Soul.

Our Leader, Mrs. Eddy, writes in *Science and Health*, "Soul has infinite resources with which to bless mankind, and happiness would be more readily attained and would be more secure in our keeping, if sought in Soul." And she continues, "Higher enjoyments alone can satisfy the cravings of immortal man. We cannot circumscribe happiness within the limits of personal sense. The senses confer no real enjoyment."<sup>3</sup>

There can be no greater need in the world today than for mankind to gain and to be governed by this Christly understanding of the present availability of God's unlimited spiritual gifts. Personal and national fear of shortages of all kinds would be eliminated. Greed, suspicion, and dishonesty would evaporate from the human mind. Each individual would sit contentedly "under his vine and under his fig tree"<sup>4</sup> of self-completeness, and harmony would reign throughout the earth.

NAOMI PRICE

<sup>1</sup> I Tim. 6:9-11; <sup>2</sup> Mark 11:24; <sup>3</sup> *Science and Health*, pp. 60-61; <sup>4</sup> Mic. 4:4.



WHO hangs out the moon?  
WHO turns on the sun?  
WHO makes the flowers bloom and puts fruit on the trees?  
WHO sends the rain so I can make dams in the mud?  
WHO made me stop, when I was hurting Skippy?  
WHO woke up Daddy when I waded out in the lake?  
WHO told the lady at the supermarket that the kitten  
she found might be mine?

DO YOU know who, God?  
Daddy says it's You—our real Father-Mother God,  
watching over all.  
Mummy says it's Your loving care.  
And Nana says it's proof that You and all  
You made are good.  
I think that too, God.

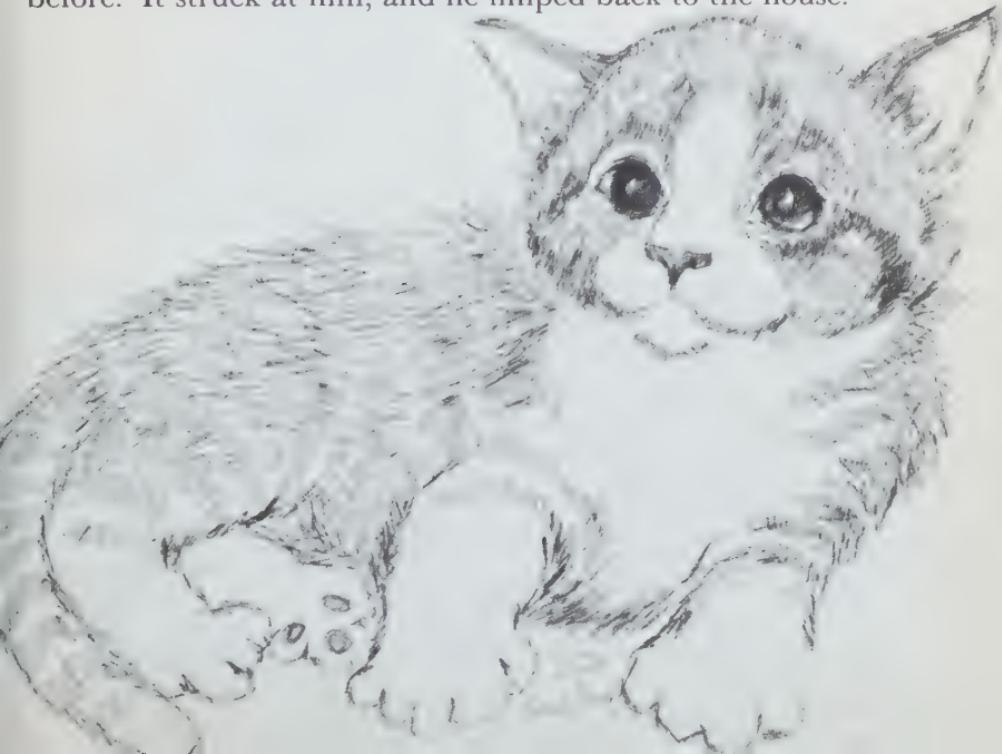
Claudine Humble Rolfs

# Tommy's grateful purr

Olive Catherine Cromwell

Tommy was a beautiful gray cat. When he was only a few weeks old, he came to live with Kay, June, and Donald, and they all loved him right away. His favorite games were chasing a little red ball all over the floor and jumping at their bare feet. He had been trained to go to each one of them to play for a few minutes every night when the children were in bed. Then he would jump from their beds and spend the rest of the night peacefully sleeping in the living room.

One day Tommy had been walking in the warm sunshine around the ranch house and over the pastureland. It was fun to chase the grasshoppers. They would buzz and fly as he touched them. This time he wandered farther away from the house than usual. He was having such fun chasing bugs and bees. Suddenly he touched something different. It glided along the ground. It was a long kind of something Tommy had never seen before. It struck at him, and he limped back to the house.



Kay, then nine, saw him coming back. "Mother!" she said, as she opened the door and took him in her arms. "Tommy is limping, and he has two marks that look like bites on his tail. I am going to take him to my room and pray to God for him."

When she closed her bedroom door with Tommy in her arms, she remembered some words in *Science and Health* by Mary Baker Eddy. Mother had read from the book to her many times, and now she was able to read it herself. She took *Science and Health* from her dresser and read these lines. They include three of Mrs. Eddy's statements summarizing what she calls "the fundamental propositions of divine metaphysics."

1. God is All-in-all.
2. God is good. Good is Mind.
3. God, Spirit, being all, nothing is matter."<sup>1</sup>

She kept thinking those spiritual facts. Since God is *all* there really is, she thought, there is no error; it simply can't exist.

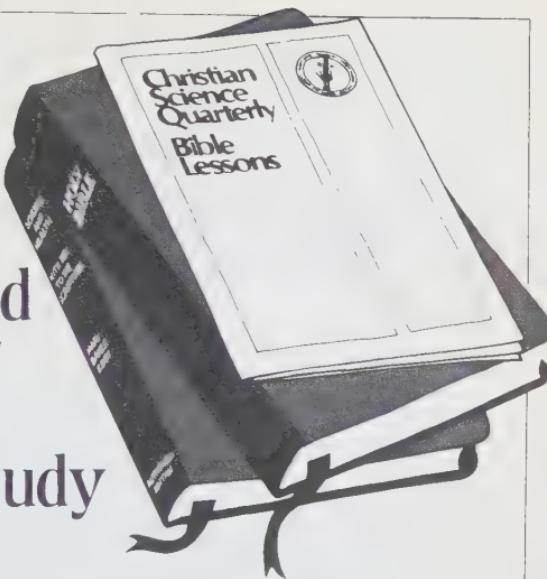
Kay prayed to know that Tommy was part of God's perfect creation and so was the snake, and that one idea of God could not hurt another. It was half an hour before Kay came out of her room. But when she did, her face was beaming. "Mother," she said, "nothing bad really ever happened to Tommy." Then she repeated what she had read in *Science and Health* and all the beautiful thoughts that had come to her as she prayed to God.

Tommy jumped down from Kay's arms and started chasing the little red ball lying on the rug. That evening he drank his big bowl of milk. Later when Kay was in bed and Tommy went to her to say good night he was softly purring. "I'm sure you are very grateful," she said to him.

When he came into the living room and stretched out for another nap, Mother noticed he didn't show any sign of discomfort in his body. "How grateful we can be for God's messages!" Mother thought, and she remembered these verses from the Bible: "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain" and "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Science and Health*, p. 113; <sup>2</sup> Isa. 11:9, 6.

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# Testimonies of Christian Science Healing

One Saturday about five years ago, after working all week in my husband's office, I looked forward to spending the morning in my plant room, separating and potting African violet plantlets. I had been thus engaged for about an hour when there was a sudden sharp pain across my chest. I expected this to go away shortly and continued with my planting. But when half an hour passed and the pain had not abated, I realized the necessity to give my full attention to healing this condition.

## A case of spiritual warfare

I returned to the bedroom. By this time the pain was so intense I could scarcely breathe and could not get to the phone to call a Christian Science practitioner for help. But I was confident of being given the spiritual understanding needed to deal with the situation.

I knew that, as Mary Baker Eddy quotes in *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* (p. 266), "man's extremity is God's opportunity," and trusted myself completely to His loving care. Through the long afternoon I lay completely immobile, but my thoughts were exultant as one truth after another poured into consciousness. Mrs. Eddy says (*ibid.*, p. 400), "By lifting thought above error, or disease, and contending persistently for truth, you destroy error." And this I did, turning resolutely away from the mortal picture, knowing that in reality my life continued harmoniously, "hid with Christ in God" (Col. 3:3).

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The statements made in these testimonies with regard to healings have been carefully verified. The original testimonies and their respective verifications are on file for reference with The Christian Science Publishing Society.—THE EDITORS.

Gratitude to God for making this Science of Christianity available through the teaching and life-example of His beloved Son, Christ Jesus, and the selfless devotion and dedication of our faithful Leader, Mrs. Eddy, welled within me. Although a few years earlier, a relative who was not a Scientist had had a similar problem resulting in hospitalization and long weeks of recovery, I was not tempted to resort to medical means for healing. I saw this as a case of spiritual warfare, and Christian Science offered the most effective weapons available. In the words of the Apostle Paul (II Cor. 10:3, 4): "Though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds)."

Despite continuing pain, sometime during the afternoon I felt certain that healing had taken place. I was eager to accept this invitation of Mrs. Eddy's (*Science and Health*, p. 262): "We must reverse our feeble flutterings—our efforts to find life and truth in matter—and rise above the testimony of the material senses, above the mortal to the immortal idea of God."

At 6 p.m. I rose, dressed, and went to the kitchen to prepare my husband's dinner. The painful condition left me so completely, during that brief walk down the hall, that I did not recall there had been a problem until late the following afternoon! Now I had the satisfaction of knowing not only that Christian Science heals but that I had been able to utilize this truth in overcoming what seemed a serious difficulty.

Great blessings followed this cherished proof of God's care, and it proved to be a turning point in my life. I joined The Mother Church and a branch church, and served the latter actively. I also had Christian Science class instruction. I count this among my most valued opportunities, for the truths I learned enabled me to help three other members of my family, who soon joined both a branch church and The Mother Church in Boston. For this beautiful healing, and for the growth in grace and spiritual understanding that followed, I give daily thanks to God.

ELEANOR DARTT WEBSTER  
Sparta, New Jersey

Christian Science has helped me in so many ways that I barely know where to begin. One of the most outstanding healings I have had came soon after I had been introduced to this Science in 1970. For several years I had smoked heavily, and although excessive drinking had been controlled, I still drank alcoholic beverages socially.

A friend gave me a copy of *Science and Health* by Mrs. Eddy, and I began to read it daily. A passage in the first chapter, "Prayer," caught my attention (p. 1): "Desire is prayer; and no loss can occur from trusting God with our desires, that they may be moulded and exalted before they take form in words and in deeds." And I received further encouragement when I read (p. 2): "Are we benefited by praying? Yes, the desire which goes forth hungering after righteousness is blessed of our Father, and it does not return unto us void."

I could hardly wait to put these truths to the test. My first and foremost desire at that time was to be freed from the cigarette habit. I continued reading *Science and Health* over a period of two months. During this time I was healed of a cold, and I threw away all my vitamins, amphetamines, and aspirin. Others began to comment on the improvement in my disposition, and my work and friendships became more harmonious.

But the healing of the smoking habit had not been completed. Finally, I began to lose patience with the error. I confided to a friend, who is not a Scientist, that I had hoped to be healed of smoking through the application of Christian Science. He just scoffed and quoted, "God helps those who help themselves." This awakened me to see that I was believing human will could help me win my freedom, and this subtle acceptance was delaying the healing. I resolved then and there to put *all* my trust in God. At that moment I knew I had been instantly healed of the smoking habit. A few days later I realized, to my pleasant surprise, that all desire for alcoholic beverages had left me as well. Today I feel so completely removed from these habits that it is difficult to imagine they ever held any attraction for me.

Blessed by  
obedience and  
steadfastness

Since I became a student of Science, I have found increasingly improved employment opportunities. At one point when I was in dire need of income, I called a Christian Science practitioner for help. She recognized the desperation in my voice and vehemently urged me not to be afraid. She spoke with such authority that I was impelled to be obedient. Then she gently asked me to study page 258 of *Science and Health*. I repeatedly pondered this statement: "God expresses in man the infinite idea forever developing itself, broadening and rising higher and higher from a boundless basis."

The next morning I received a call from a company with which I had left a work résumé a few weeks before. The personnel staff had told me at the time that the manager was on vacation but that there were no openings anyway. I later found out that during his vacation the manager had made a decision to hire someone new, and had talked it over with the other executives on his return. They discussed the qualities they were looking for in a prospective employee and mentioned that someone who had worked for a particular company, although in an unrelated industry, might be suited for this position. As they talked, the manager glanced down at his desk and noticed my résumé. I was hired immediately. (I later learned that in their meeting the executives had been unwittingly describing my qualifications and had even mentioned the company that had employed me the previous four years in a city one hundred miles away.)

My new position was in public relations, although I had had no formal training in that field. Within a year I was promoted to director of public relations for this company, even though there were many well-qualified public relations professionals available. This was five years ago, but the lessons I learned of obedience and steadfastness have continued to bless me.

More recently I was completely healed of sorrow when my dad passed on. An understanding of the tender relationship between God and man, gained through my study of the Bible and *Science and Health*, sustained me beautifully. Divine Science certainly is the Comforter promised by Christ Jesus. I am deeply

grateful for the Master's role as the Way-shower. And I'm grateful for his faithful disciple, Mrs. Eddy, whose discovery, Christian Science, gives us a precious understanding of the goodness of God.

FAYE KITCHEN  
San Diego, California



Many years ago I suffered from extreme weakness. In a condition bordering on collapse, I went to a Christian Science lecture. I took a seat next to a wall and leaned on it for support. Halfway through came the realization that healing had occurred. I had been acknowledging our Father-Mother's great love and asking to but touch the hem of Christ's garment—the genuine recognition and acceptance of God's healing power. At the conclusion of the lecture, I stood up full of strength and joy. There was a train to catch, and though there was no need to rush, I just couldn't help running. I was entirely free.

Partial  
blindness  
healed

At a time of unemployment I was suddenly offered a job, which I subsequently held for many years. This came about after I had realized that God is my true employer, and that He has plenty of work for me in the expression of spiritual qualities.

In seeking an understanding of divine protection during the bombings on London and during war service overseas, I found the ninety-first Psalm a real staff to lean on. I love the *Christian Science Hymnal*. Many times lines from a favorite hymn have brought a healing message.

When it was necessary to move from a large house into something smaller, I knew the Father was guiding me. This sentence from *Pulpit and Press* by Mrs. Eddy was recalled (p. 3): "Our surety is in our confidence that we are indeed dwellers in Truth and Love, man's eternal mansion." I finally found a place far better than any other I had seen.

Accidental damage to an eye resulted in severe pain and partial blindness. After two or three days of prayer, in a spirit of deep humility I placed myself unreservedly in God's hands, con-

fident of His ability to heal me. When I awoke next morning, the healing was complete.

I am deeply grateful for membership in The Mother Church covering a period of forty years. Indeed, thanks are due to God for Mrs. Eddy's wonderful discovery, Christian Science.

GEORGE W. RIGGS  
Herne Bay, Kent, England



Years ago my husband left me with five small children. His business was heavily in debt, and our personal debts were staggering also. These problems, coupled with the responsibility of a large family, seemed to overwhelm him.

Since I was unable to pay the rent for the house we were living in, we were asked to leave. At the time I barely had enough money to feed my family. Words can't describe the fear and hurt that engulfed me. I had received Christian Science class instruction about four years earlier, and I knew that I could turn to God and always find an answer.

I found a small apartment that needed a lot of care, but nevertheless I was happy to find it. The first night there was almost unbearable. I cried and prayed desperately, and I kept thinking of Christ Jesus' prayer before his crucifixion (Matt. 26:39), "O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt." Finally, at about four in the morning, I found my peace. I didn't know what I would do for food or money the next day, but when that sense of peace came over me, I was sure there would be an answer to these needs.

I had married after only one year of college, so I had no working experience. As it happened, I was led to put an ad in the newspaper offering my services as a baby sitter. This worked out well, and right away other jobs also opened up that made it possible for me to be there when my children came home from school. Within three years I had repaid all of our debts.

Eventually I became a Christian Science practical nurse,

**Spiritual strength  
replaces loneliness  
and inadequacy**

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and as the years passed I was able to prove this statement by Mrs. Eddy (*Science and Health*, p. 444): "Step by step will those who trust Him find that 'God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.'" The spiritual strength that I discovered during those years has never left me. I learned to forgive and to destroy the belief of loneliness and inadequacy. Also, I was blessed by and witness to many physical healings.

I have since married a man with whom I share many interests. We are both grateful for this companionship. Through the Bible, God tells us (Joel 2:25), "I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten." I feel this has come true for me.

I'm truly grateful to Mrs. Eddy, to our Master, Christ Jesus, and to all Christian Scientists who are proving that God is Love and that through this greater understanding of Him, all our problems can be resolved.

PATRICIA SALVATORE  
Grass Valley, California



About eighteen years ago I learned of Christian Science through a close friend who lived next door. Quite often we visited a few minutes during the day. One morning I went over to her house in tears and poured out my problems. Somehow the subject turned to Christian Science, and I noticed a set of books on her table. I was familiar with the King James Bible, but had never seen *Science and Health* by Mrs. Eddy. Nor had I heard of Christian Science before this. I asked her what it was, and she explained it to me. Then I asked her if she thought I could ever be a Christian Scientist. She said yes, and lent me her copy of *Science and Health*. I took the book home and read it.

From early childhood I had been extremely nervous and frail, and sickly from constipation. A doctor had told me I had pernicious anemia and could never be cured of it but would always have to take vitamins and shots just to keep from being bedridden. I was also suffering from migraine headaches, and my two young boys were frequently ill with colds and croup.

After I read *Science and Health*, I returned it to my friend, who asked me how I was feeling. (She knew that previous to this time I had been going to the doctor for shots every two weeks. It had now been six weeks since I had seen him.) I told her I felt great—had never felt better in my life—and I wondered aloud if I had been healed. She put her arms around me and said, “My dear, you have had a wonderful healing!”

**Pernicious anemia  
proved powerless**

Although I did not resume taking vitamins or having shots, I did go back to the doctor’s office to pay my bill. The doctor saw me, called me in, and checked me over. Then he said, “What have you done? There’s nothing wrong with you anymore. You don’t need to come back again.” I thanked him and walked out. I had also been healed of smoking, and the children were healed of the tendency toward colds and croup.

As a way of thanking God for my healings, I later joined a branch church and The Mother Church. I continue in my study of Christian Science and have so very much to be grateful for.

ALPHA O. ELDER  
Klamath Falls, Oregon

# Christian Science Lectures

Everyone is cordially invited to these free lectures.

‡Indicates Children's Room available during lectures.

\*If details such as time, place, title, or child care facilities are missing from a church's listing, please see local publicity.

## AUSTRALIA

**NEW SOUTH WALES—Bowral:** Church, Bowral and Bendooley sts, 2.30pm, Sat, Oct 20, "The Key to the Mystery of Creation" (McClain)

**VICTORIA—Nunawading** (First, Ringwood): Nunawading High School, Canterbury rd, Forest Hill, 3.15pm, Sun, Sept 30, "Where in the World Is God?" (McClain)

## ENGLAND

**BEDFORDSHIRE—Bedford:** The Dame Alice Harpur School, Cardington rd, 3pm‡, Sat, Sept 15 (Henderson)\*

[These lectures are given by members of the Board of Lectureship of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A.]

## TESTIMONY MEETINGS

Meetings at which testimonies of Christian Science healing are given are held in Christian Science churches on Wednesdays. A cordial invitation to attend these meetings, as well as the Sunday services, is extended to all. Information telling where and when these are held is given in the Directory in *The Christian Science Journal*.

**KENT—Gravesend:** Church, 74 Darnley rd, 8pm‡, Fri, Oct 5 (Henderson)\*

## UNITED STATES

(Week of August 5 to 11, and some earlier dates)

**MAINE—Harrison** (First, Fryeburg): Camp Newfound and Camp Owatonna, Rte 35, 3pm‡, Sun, Aug 5, "The Science of Christian Healing" (Hubbell)

**MARYLAND—Baltimore** (Third): Church, 702 Cathedral st, 7.30pm, Mon, Aug 6, "The Science of Christian Healing" (Hubbell)

**NEW JERSEY—Montclair:** Church, 8 Hillside av, 8.30pm‡, Fri, Aug 10 (Aghamalian)\*

**NEW YORK—Chautauqua** (Society, Westfield): Hurlbut Memorial Church, 2pm, Sun, July 29, "There's Only One Real Ego" (Correll)\*

**Riverhead** (joint lecture): Holiday Inn, Rte 495 at 25, 8.30pm, Thurs, July 26, "Have You Found Yourself?" (Alton)

**PENNSYLVANIA—Hugesville** (First, Williamsport): Alford Hall, Crystal Lake Camps, Sun, July 29‡, "Have You Found Yourself?" (Alton)\*

**VIRGINIA—Springfield:** Auditorium, West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling rd, 8pm‡, Tues, Aug 7, "The Science of Christian Healing" (Hubbell)

**WISCONSIN—Whitefish Bay:** Church, 721 E Silver Spring dr, 7pm‡, Sun, Aug 5, "Your Unlimited Opportunities" (McGrew)

## THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE TEXTBOOK

*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mary Baker Eddy is the textbook of Christian Science. It is available in English, in English-Braille, and in Danish, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Swedish. It may be obtained from any Christian Science Reading Room, or ordered directly from MISS FRANCES C. CARLSON, Publisher's Agent, One Norway Street, Boston, MA, U.S.A. 02115.

## VISITORS WELCOME

### FORMER HOMES OF MARY BAKER EDDY

1908-1910 *Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts*—400 Beacon Street. An exhibit traces Mrs. Eddy's role as Founder and Leader of our movement—preaching, teaching, writing, and commenting on issues still current.

#### Visiting Hours

May 1-October 31: 11:30-4 Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays;  
2-5 Sundays

November 1-April 30: closed except by appointment; phone (617)  
262-2300, extension 3794, 3795, 3796, or 3797

Closed all holidays except Memorial Day (last Monday in May) and  
Bunker Hill Day (June 17)

1875-1882 *Lynn, Massachusetts*—12 Broad Street, where Mrs. Eddy completed her manuscript for *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*. It was while living here that Mrs. Eddy initiated many foundational steps in establishing the Christian Science movement. These include the formation of the Christian Scientist Association; the Church of Christ, Scientist; the Massachusetts Metaphysical College. Here also Mrs. Eddy was ordained as Pastor of her Church.

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Closed all holidays except Memorial Day (last Monday in May) and  
Bunker Hill Day (June 17)

## CHURCH SERVICES AND READING ROOMS

A directory of all Churches of Christ, Scientist, and Christian Science Societies, including the hours of their services and information about their Reading Rooms, appears monthly in *The Christian Science Journal*.

### The Mother Church

The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts, is located near the corner of Massachusetts and Huntington Avenues.

The Church edifice is open to visitors Mondays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 4:15 p.m., and Sundays from 12 noon until 4:15 p.m.

### SERVICES

Sunday morning at 10:45, Sunday evening at 7:30 (evening service omitted during July and August), and Wednesday evening testimony meeting at 7:30.

Sunday services in Spanish are held in the Original Edifice at 9:30 a.m., and a testimony meeting in Spanish the first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m.

A supervised Children's Room is provided during all Sunday church services and the Wednesday evening testimony meetings.

Sunday School for pupils up to the age of twenty at 10:45.

### READING ROOMS

101 Belvidere Street (north end of Church Colonnade, Christian Science Center). Open Mondays through Fridays from 7:15 a.m. to 7 p.m., also Wednesdays from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Saturdays and holidays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sundays from 12 noon to 7 p.m.

194 Massachusetts Avenue (corner of Clearway Street). Open Mondays through Fridays 7:15 a.m. to 9 p.m., Wednesdays until 7 p.m., Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Sundays and holidays.

541 Boylston Street (across from Copley Square). Open Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays and holidays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day), Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m.

8 Milk Street (near Washington Street). *Jointly maintained with branch churches in the Greater Boston area.* Open Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed Sundays and holidays.

## LECTURE NOTICE

Detailed information regarding lectures in the United States and Canada must reach the Journal and Herald Card Department *nine weeks* before the week in which the lecture is to be given in order to ensure publication in the *Sentinel*. Information regarding lectures in the British Isles and Europe must reach the department *fourteen weeks* before the week of the lecture. Information from other overseas areas must reach us *eighteen weeks* before the week of the lecture. When lectures are to be broadcast, it should be so stated, station and frequency being included. When Children's Room facilities are to be available, this also should be stated.

The receipt of all information from the United States and Canada is acknowledged. If an acknowledgment is not received within two weeks, a duplicate notice should be forwarded.

For lecture announcements to be published in the *Herald*, please refer to information on the back of the Lecture Information forms supplied to branch churches.

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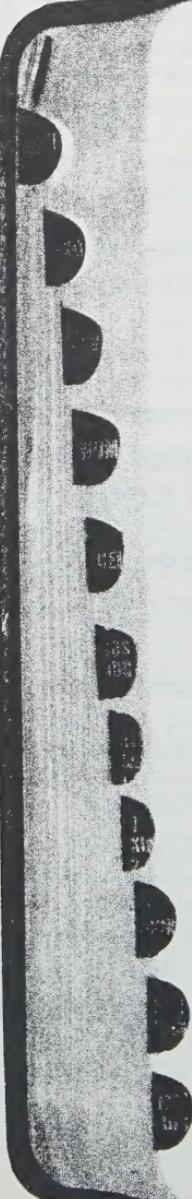
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**The Interpreter's One-Volume Commentary on the Bible,** \$19.50. **The One-Volume Bible Commentary** edited by Rev. J. R. Dummelow, \$19.50. Useful insights into Biblical history, literature and culture in both.

**The Oxford Bible Atlas,** a good geographical sourcebook with maps, text, photographs, \$9.95.

**The Bible Time-Line,** an illustrated chart relating Bible characters and events to main historical periods. 50 cents.

**The Continuity of the Bible.** Thomas Leishman's insightful series of short articles gathered into five volumes, \$3.50 each.

**Guide for Bible Teaching,** Ann Putcamp's paperback three-volume series on presenting Bible truths to various ages in Sunday School. \$2.50 each.

Any of these resources, used in the light of the teachings of Christian Science—especially **Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures** by Mary Baker Eddy—can help the Bible mean even more to you.

Inquire at any Christian Science Reading Room, or The Christian Science Publishing Society, One Norway Street, Boston, MA, U.S.A. 02115

# To learn more of Christian healing

The Bible shows us that God heals, not only human relationships but also physical difficulties. Jesus and his disciples practiced Christian healing. And each of us can learn how to do this as we carefully study the writings of Mary Baker Eddy.



You can look up references to spiritual healing in the *Concordance to the Writings of Mary Baker Eddy*. Appendix A in the Concordance to *Science and Health* will lead you to paragraphs with marginal headings which include the word "healing."

A similar appendix in the Concordance to Mrs. Eddy's other writing will direct you to whole articles on such topics as "Christian Science Healing," "Healing Sickness and Sin," "Mental Practice," and so on.

The librarian at your nearby Christian Science Reading Room will be glad to help you in your study. The Reading Room has the books you need.

**Miss Frances C. Carlson, Publisher's Agent**

One Norway Street, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A. 02115